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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/593,999	06/14/2000	Ronald Scot Young	3011-1030	8206
466	7590	07/11/2006	EXAMINER	
YOUNG & THOMPSON 745 SOUTH 23RD STREET 2ND FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22202			CHIN, RANDALL E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1744	

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/593,999

Applicant(s)

YOUNG, RONALD SCOT

Examiner

Randall Chin

Art Unit

1744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 13-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5 and 16-23 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 16, 17 and 20 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 16, line 1, although withdrawn, change "An" to --The--.

Claim 17, line 2, although withdrawn, delete "plural" and insert --plurality of--.

Claim 20, line 2, although withdrawn, change "where in" to --wherein--.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. Upon further consideration, the following art rejections are now being made. Any inconvenience is sincerely regretted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lees 3,768,111 (hereinafter Lees).

The patent to Lees discloses a "yarn substitute" defined by the **entire device** as shown in Fig. 9 comprising an outer layer 53a, 53b of "inexpensive waste material" folded onto itself (since it's a tube as shown in Fig. 9) to form an upper outer layer and a lower outer layer and an inner layer 51 of "inexpensive waste material" between said

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upper and lower outer layers, said inner layer and said upper and lower outer layers being connected together along substantially an entire length of the inner and outer layers by a connection defined by line of stitching 52 extending through the outer layers and inner layer (col. 5, lines 43-46) maintain the inner layer between the upper and lower outer layers and to prevent or limit movement of the inner layer relative to the outer layers (col. 5, lines 33-51). It should be noted that the recitations "inexpensive waste material" (lines 2 and 4) are of no patentable moment in this particular instance and are deemed merely broad, relative expressions.

5. Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EPA 0 638 277 (hereinafter EPA '277).

As for claim 14, the EPA '277 reference teaches an "elongate ribbon" as shown in Fig. 1 comprising a strip of absorbent outer non-woven fabric 14 (col. 2, lines 8-19) at least folded over itself longitudinally (col. 1, lines 50-53) to form upper and lower outer fabric layers, and an absorbent inner filling formed from "waste" from non-woven materials (col. 1, line 54 to col. 2, line 8) and being between the upper and lower layers to form a composite or sandwich structure, the outer fabric layers and inner filling being connected together along substantially an entirety of the inner filling and outer layers by a connection extending through the outer layers and inner filling (i.e., along the edges) to maintain the inner filling between the outer prevent limit movement of the inner filling relative to the outer layers. It should be noted that the recitation "waste" (line 3) is of no

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patentable moment in this particular instance and is deemed merely a broad, relative expression.

With respect to claim 15, the EPA '277 reference teaches "an elongate ribbon" as shown in Fig. 1 comprising outer strips of non-woven fabric 14 (col. 1, lines 50-53 and col. 2, lines 8-19) and an inner filling 10 or 12 formed from "waste" from non-woven materials (col. 1, line 54 to col. 2, line 8) and being layered between said outer strips to form a composite or sandwich structure (Fig. 2), said outer strips and said inner filling being bound together by a connection(col. 1, lines 50-54) extending through the outer strips and inner filling along substantially an entirety of the inner filling and the outer strips (i.e., along the edges) to maintain the inner filling between the outer strips and prevent or limit movement of the inner filling relative to the outer strips. It should be noted that the recitation "waste" (line 3) is of no patentable moment in this particular instance and is deemed merely a broad, relative expression.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Morganstern, Williams, and Lengers are relevant to various layered cleaning arrangements.

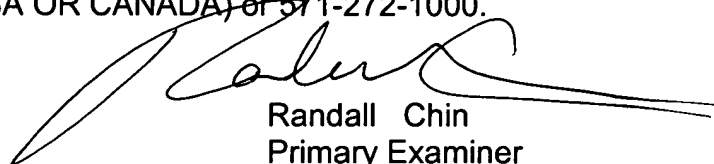
7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Randall Chin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1270. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gladys Corcoran can be reached on (571) 272-1214. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Randall Chin
Primary Examiner
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